AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1184 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1933 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 23, NO. 42

We shall one day learn to supersede politics by education. —Emerson.

Labor Board Ends Philadelphia Taxi Strike; Company Union Violates NRA

Washington.—In a decision ordering the Philadelphia taxicab strike ended immediately, the National Labor Board charged the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company with violating the labor section of the National Recovery Act and called upon the company to return the strikers, numbering about 1,000, to work "under the conditions prevailing prior to November 23," three days before the men struck.

Discussing the alleged violation of the Recovery Act by the company, the board said:

"The company's insistence that the employees shall do their collective bargaining only through the 'P. R. T. cooperative plan' is arbitrary to the rights granted to employees by Congress in Section 7-A of the National Recovery Act. This guarantees the right of self-organization to the employes and permits them to select representatives of their own choosing for collective bargaining, which includes the right to choose union officials to represent them if they so desire.

"The P. R. T. cooperative plan limits the representatives to employes of the company, and it is in this respect in violation of Section 7-A of the Recovery Act. The contention of the company that the employes themselves desire to restrict representation to employes of the company is not borne out by the evidence, for the strike of the lockout occurred because some 900 employes chose the union and its officers to represent them and indicated to the company that they did not want employes of the company to represent them."

Taking up one of the demands of the men, the board added:

"The insistence of the union members that they be granted business shorning (hair) membership while they are on duty is an unreasonable request. The company is within the rights in making rules for the uniforms that employes shall wear while on duty and in prohibiting buttons or other insignia to be worn on the uniforms."

All other matters in dispute between the company and the men the board held to be proper subjects for arbitration under the direction of the Philadelphia Regional Labor Board. Pending the arbitration the board said the "company should restore to their former positions all those in their employ on November 23, 1933," and that the "strike or lockout should be called off immediately."

Philadelphia, Pa.—The striking taxicab drivers of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company voted unanimously to accept the National Labor Board's decision ending the strike, Harold F. Galbraith, president of Local Union No. 158, International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, announced, but voted to continue the strike until the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company had also accepted the ruling. As a consequence, nearly 2,000 men continued their picketing throughout the city.

Higher Pay, Shorter Hours, Asked for Wisconsin State Employes; 12-Hour Day Imposed on Many

Madison, Wis.—The Wisconsin State Employes' Association is carrying on an active campaign to persuade the Legislature to increase the, pay and reduce the hours of employes of the State. The Association charges that many of their members are compelled to work 12 hours and more per day at "pitiably low wages," with only two days off a month. Such conditions are said to be typical of many branches of the service.

The long hours and low wages imposed on Wisconsin employes were brought to the attention of the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor by Arnold-S. Zander, delegate of the Employes' Association, who also gave an account of the association's efforts to improve the living standards, despite the handicaps.

After a thorough study of the situation the convention declared that despite the NRA, policy of shorter hours and higher wages, many public employes do not come under the NRA and have not been affected by the improvements in wages and working conditions brought about by organized labor. To meet this condition the convention urged active work in organizing the employes of other States and of public jurisdictions generally.

The convention asked the Executive Council to continue cooperation with the Wisconsin State Employes Association and to take such action as may be necessary to shorten their hours of work without decreasing their pay, and to otherwise help them.

NEW JERSEY EMPLOYER FOUND GUILTY OF VIOLATING NRA LABOR SECTION

Newark, N. J.—The Gemex Company, manufacturing gloves in Hoboken, was found guilty of violating Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act in a decision by the Regional Labor Board of New Jersey, Harry L. Tepper, vice chairman and counsel of the board, announced. This is the first decision of the kind in this State.

It was charged that the Gemex Company "denied to its employes the right to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining and other mutual aid or protection." The charges were preferred with the National Labor Board in Washington for action there.

A hearing has been in progress at the Gemex plant since October 16. It was alleged the company refused to take back four union men discharged for "concerted activities."

Make Workers' Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively Permanent Law, Is Suggested

Washington.—Shall organized labor endeavor to secure the enactment of a Federal industrial law to make permanent the provisions of Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Law, which expires June 16, 1935?

The advisability of this procedure is being considered by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, to whom it was referred by the 1933 convention of that organization.

Under the proposal, the Executive Council would prepare an act to be known as the Industrial Labor Law and incorporate therein the principles set forth in Section 7a of the Recovery act, guaranteeing the workers the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choice, free from any interference by the employers.

Weirton Bosses Intimidated Workers In Employees' Election, Is Charge

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Wholesale coercion and intimidation were used by officials of the Weirton Steel Company in the election for collective bargaining representatives at the company's plants in Weirton and Clarksburg, W. Va., and Steubenville, Ohio, according to officials of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. The company refused to permit the election to be held under rules prescribed by the National Labor Board to secure a free expression of the desire of the employes under the guarantee of Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

William J. Long, president of the Weirton local of the Amalgamated, said that hundreds of employes made affidavits that heads of departments forced them to vote. He declared one man fractured a wrist when he fell while escaping from a foreman.

Mr. Long said that these affidavits would be sent to Chairman Wagner of the National Labor Board at Washington.

"In one affidavit alone there are 195 signers," he added. "We still invite a fair test, and if we are licked we will take it with a smile."

He also charged that for several weeks before the election all employes had been entertained royally in the J. Williams Country Club at parties held almost nightly under the sponsorship of "company union" officials.

Union officials charged that previous to the election large groups of employes were taken to the Steel company's offices and shown letters from the company's customers in which threats were made to cancel orders if the Weirton company's plants were unionized.

Labor Board Considers Case Involving Discrimination Against Union Members

Washington.—Labor officials are looking forward with interest to the forthcoming decision of the National Labor Board in the Fifth Avenue Coach Company case, New York City.

It is alleged that officials of the company discharged nineteen employes because of their connection with an American Federation of Labor Union.

The dispute was referred to the National Board by the New York Regional Labor Board.

It is thought the dispute may prove important as a test case, inasmuch as the board has been called upon to interfere in a conflict between an A. F. of L. organization and a corporation controlled company union.

GREEN WILL CHARGE FORD WITH VIOLATION OF NRA

Washington.—Following a conference with General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, announced that he would submit a brief to the National Recovery Administration within a few days to show that Henry Ford has violated the labor section of the Recovery Act in dealing with strikers at his Edgewater, N. J., and Chester, Pa., assembling plants.

Mr. Green said the brief would contain affidavits showing Ford has refused to negotiate with employes for collective bargaining purposes, claiming he would do so.

The brief had been written, he stated, by legal experts on evidence submitted by officials of the locals at Edgewater and Chester, and deals chronologically with the entire controversy.

"I am convinced Ford is in violation of the code and has not done any collective bargaining whatever with his employes," Green said, adding, "We want to submit the evidence to Gen. Johnson and have him take action."

4 MORE STATES RATIFY CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT

Washington.—Reports received at the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor that the legislatures of Maine, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have ratified the child labor amendment to the Federal Constitution were interpreted as indicating a positive trend toward protecting the children of the Nation by conferring upon Congress the power "to limit, regulate, and prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age," which the amendment provides.

The State federations of labor in these four States carried vigorous campaigns for approval of the amendment and were largely responsible for the favorable action of the legislatures.

When the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor met in October of this year, only 15 States had ratified the amendment. Iowa adopted it a few weeks ago, and Maine, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and West Virginia bring the number up to 20.

ROOSEVELT ORDER BACKS NATIONAL LABOR BOARD

Complete Authority Over Disputes Menacing Industrial Peace Is Bestowed As It Takes Up Challenge by Company-Union Employers—Past Actions Approved.

Washington.—President Roosevelt, in executive order, extended the powers of the National Labor Board to include "all conflicts threatening the industrial peace of the country," as originally set up the board was limited to controversies arising from the President's reemployment agreement.

The new order was issued as the National Labor Board faced two major contests based on disputes involving the election of representatives by workers to confer on collective bargaining. It is alleged that the Weirton Steel Company, with plants in Weirton and Clarksburg, W. Va., and Steubenville, Ohio, and the Budd Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia have defied the authority of the labor board.

After citing the National Industrial Recovery Act as authority for his action, the President's order read:

"1—The National Labor Board created on August 5, 1933, shall exercise jointly on any case of hardship or dispute that may arise from interpretation or application of the President's re-employment agreement,' shall continue to adjust all industrial disputes whereby arising out of the interpretation and operation of the President's re-employment agreement and which may approach industrial code of fair competition, and shall act to avoid or settle threatening or existing the industrial peace of the country. All action heretofore taken by this board in the discharge of its functions is hereby approved and ratified.

"2—The powers and duties of said board shall be as follows:

"A—To settle by mediation, conciliation or arbitration all controversies between employers and employes which tend to impede the purposes of the National Industrial Recovery Act, provided, however, the board may decline to take cognizance of controversies between employers and employes in any field of trade or industry where adequate machinery of settlement provided for by agreement, industrial code, or Federal law, have not been invoked.

"B—To establish local or regional boards upon which employers and employes shall be equally represented, and to delegate thereto such powers and such territorial jurisdiction as the National Labor Board may determine.

"C—To review the determination of the local or regional boards where the public interest so requires.

"D—To make rules and regulations governing its procedure and the discharge of its functions."

NEW YORK REGIONAL LABOR BOARD ENDS 143 STRIKES

Employers Reinstate 552 Workers Alleged to Have Been Discharged Because of Trade Union Activity

New York.—Since it began operations on October 24, the Regional Labor Board here has settled 143 industrial disputes, involving 21,087 workers, George W. Alger, chairman of the board announced. Among the 143 settlements were 143 strikes. Twenty-two strikes were averted by the board through amicable adjustment resulting from the board's intervention. The board also settled six disputes through arbitration.

In its efforts to uphold the right of the workers to bargain collectively under the guarantee contained in the National Industrial Recovery Act, the board succeeded in bringing about the reinstatement of 552 workers after hearing charges of discrimination for union activity.

Bus Drivers Block Ballot Scheme Imposed by Bosses

Brighton, England.—Employes of Brighton Corporation Tramways Department here administered a drastic rebuke to the officials of the company who endeavored to thwart a wage reduction ballot on them. Over 300 out of 462 employes gathered early in the morning.

The ballot was organized by the firm in the desire to compel the employes to agree to the continuation of the old individual wage agreement instead of adopting the system of Collective Bargaining and General Workers Union.

Three hundred and forty men employes signed a petition protesting against the ballot imposed upon them by the company, declared their intention to accept only an agreement negotiated with the representatives of the union.

STEEL WORKERS PAY ROSE $800,000 DURING OCTOBER

New York.—There was a substantial increase in payrolls of the iron and steel industry in October despite a 6 per cent decline in ingot production, the American Iron and Steel Institute declared in its report to the National Recovery Administration in Washington. The Institute is the Authority for the administration of the NRA code for the iron and steel manufacturing industry.

The latest reports show that while gross operations declined from 93 per cent of capacity in September to 87 per cent in October, monthly payrolls in the latter month increased $800,000.

The Institute also reported slight increases in the hours worked by all employes and average earnings by the hour, as well as a decrease in the average hours worked per week per employe from 32.7 in September to 32 in October.

There was an increase of $6,630,621 in total wages earned over the 9,000,000 paid in June, before the code became effective, and an increase of $7,-425,776 in October over the $5,200,000 in September and $4,200,000 in October.

Industrial Police Measure Passes Pennsylvania House

Harrisburg, Pa.—Organized labor in Pennsylvania received a decided victory when the State House of Representatives passed the bill to abolish Industrial police. The measure had the active support of Governor Pinchot, who claims that the policy of corporation officials of employing industrial police during labor controversies was responsible for disorders.

32-HOUR WORK WEEK FOR TUGMEN IS URGED

President Noonan of Tugmen's Association Says Shorter Hours Are Necessary to Provide Jobs for Idle—Ship Owners Have Defeated Legislation in Congress.

Washington.—A maximum 32-hour week for tugmen except in emergencies involving danger to life and property and in cases of fire, when the limit could be increased to 48 hours per week, and provision that the rate of one-half the normal rate for the excess hours was recommended for inclusion in the general code for the shipping industry by J. J. Noonan, district secretary for the Great Lakes District, International Longshoremen's Association, and grand president of the Licensed Tugmen's Association, in a brief submitted to the National Recovery Administration which has the code under consideration.

Mr. Noonan also recommended that the age limit for employment on tugs be raised from 16 years, set up in the code, to 21 years, and that labor be adequately represented on the Code Authority.

Tugmen's Hours Fixed by Inspectors

Pointing out that the number of hours which tug owners may impose upon employees are determined by Federal statutes, Mr. Noonan said:

"At present, however, due to nearly every instance the hours which labor may be permitted to work on tugs, barges, etc., are left to local inspectors of steam vessels. This law was put on the statutes in 1872 and was not changed in any form until 1918.

"At that time certain limits were placed on the discretionary powers of the local inspectors. These statutory provisions, however, do not provide for the satisfactory regulation of hours and do not establish a clear definite District what a man should be required or permitted to do, and still be able to protect the life of passengers and crew.

"The above provisions would effectively obviate the dangers of overfatigue due to the high nervous strain incident to modern navigation, and of the high death rate to which the men engaged in American maritime navigation are subject.

Legislative Efforts Blocked

"The proposal we have submitted is not a new or unprecedented one. The principle of limiting the hours of employment in the shipping industry, on account of the fact that relief can be obtained only through reduction of working hours, so that more labor is need of gainful occupation could be taken from the ranks of the unemployed and regain their rightful position as producers of national wealth.

"We make attempts met the usual fate of all the previous efforts to amend the navigation laws and died in Congress at a time when the members of that body were appropriating millions of dollar for relief.

30-Hour Week on NRA Projects

"It may be well to point out in this connection that the Public Works Administration provides for a 30-hour limit on all PWA projects. All tugboats engaged in those projects work under the 30-hour limitation.

"We maintain that this PWA provision gives ample evidence that the Administration fully recognizes the immediate necessity of shortening the hours to increase employment and we offer our proposed provision in place of the present Section 10 of Article V as fully means of effectuating the policies of the act."

LABOR INJUNCTION HIT BEFORE N. Y. COMMISSION

New York.—Fundamental legislation to secure the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively without interference from employers or the law and the complete abolition or drastic limitation of injunctions in labor disputes was asked in a brief submitted to Thomas I. Waldman, attorney for various labor unions, on behalf of the State Commission of the Judiciary, sent to the Legislative Commission on the Administration of Justice. The brief was accompanied by a "model bill" on injunctions.

"A tremendous increase in the number of applications for injunctions against labor unions in the past few months" was cited in the brief as evidence to support the contention that the rights of labor will not exist on safe foundations unless abuses of labor injunctions are curbed. The brief was prepared by Mr. Waldman in association with David I. Ashe, in response to an invitation from the commission.

"That there is no necessity for the injunction process in labor disputes, and that peace and order can be maintained in the modern industrial world without it, has been shown by the fact that, although the injunction originated in England, it has long since been discarded there," the brief declared.

On the basis of experience the brief urged the complete abolition of injunctions in labor disputes, but if the Commission should itself weaken by approving this broad policy the brief urged the enactment of the "model bill" covering the following points, including: Unless public policy should rest on economic realism, yellow dog contracts should be outlawed, injunction relief must be definite and limited, loose charges must be eliminated, the temporary injunction must be abolished and all issues tried out fully and any trials and penalties fixed by law must be provided for contempt proceedings.

VALUE OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS EMPHASIZED

The imperative need for more accurate statistical information on all aspects of industrial operations, and especially on the number of unemployed workers, men and women, was stressed by the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The convention urged trade unions to maintain records of employment and unemployment, relating to their respective memberships.

3,000 CONSUMERS' COUNCILS PLANNED

White House Conference Initiates Nationwide Organization To Prevent Profiteering

Washington.—The Consumers' Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration plans the organization of more than 3,000 consumers' councils throughout the United States to hear complaints about high prices and undertake to prevent profiteering.

At a conference here under the auspices of the board and the Consumers' Council of the Agricultural Administration, Dr. Paul H. Douglas, of the Advisory Board, said plans already were under way for setting up such councils.

The local units, Dr. Douglas said, would receive price complaints, serve as information agencies, express consumers' views in matters of public policy, aid in the orderly distribution of goods, and arouse interest in playgrounds, parks, schools and cultural projects such as symphony orchestras.

Membership of each council would include, if possible, a member of a women's organization interested in consumer problems, a county agricultural agent, a home demonstration agent, a city farmers' wife, a housewife of "moderate or less than moderate" needs, a manual worker and a member of a consumer cooperative.

General Hugh S. Johnson urged that consumers be alert to guard against "extortion," but that they should not object to justified price advances.

The conference opened at the White House, where members were welcomed by Mrs. Roosevelt.

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER GUILD IS ORGANIZED

Journalists Will Use Collective Bargaining—Heywood Broun Urges Five-Day Week

Washington.—The "rugged individualism" which has been the characteristic of newspaper writers in the United States has succumbed to the overwhelming influence of economic conditions, and the necessity of combining and acting collectively for the common good, long the fundamental basis of trade union organization, has made itself felt in newspaper offices from the editors to the reporters.

At least this is the opinion of Heywood Broun, columnist for the New York World-Telegram, after delegates from 26 newspaper guilds in the United States formed the American Newspaper Guild at a meeting here.

The guild's sponsors declared that it was organized to "preserve the vocational freedom of newspaper editorial and reportorial writers, "and to improve the conditions under which they work for collective bargaining."

Under a constitution adopted, the new organization's effort to bring present newspaper guilds in cities which will become chapters of the national body.

Heywood Broun, president of the guild, told the convention that "we are going to get a five-day week whether we get it under the code or not." He said that overtime accumulated while on a special story could be taken off when the writer was not working. He added that newspaper men were not going to accept "drivvky or impossible things" in any code.

ORGANIZATION OF AKRON RUBBER WORKERS GROWS

Akron, Ohio.—Organization of the rubber workers in the Akron district into bona fide trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor is progressing very satisfactorily, according to Wilmer Tate, secretary of the Central Labor Union here.

In round figures he estimated that in the rubber factories in this district there were about 20,000 paid-up members of the new unions, with from between 6,500 and 7,000 and those from Firestone and Goodyear plants between 4,000 and 4,500 each.

WORK SHARING ADOPTED BY WELSH COAL MINERS

Blaenavon, England.—Despairing of securing any relief from the coal mine owners for jobless miners the 1,200 regularly employed workers at the Lower Pits of the Blaenavon Company here decided to share their work with 850 idle miners.

At first officials of the company refused to go on the ground that the frequent shifts of jobs might decrease profits, but finally gave in to the pressure of the workers and go into effect. The South Wales Miners Federation approved the plan.

It is expected there will be about thirty-two weeks work in the year for every miner, and during the remaining weeks they will receive benefits from the unemployment insurance, health insurance, and contributory pensions acts.

Under the former policy three out of five of the miners had relatively regular employment, while the remaining two were condemned to permanent unemployment.

HEBREW UNION CELEBRATES ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY

New York.—The United Hebrew Trades, a federation of trade unions organized in 1888 and with a membership now put at 150,000, celebrated its forty-fifth anniversary.

"A souvenir anniversary journal was issued containing greetings from Gen. Hugh Johnson, chief of the American Federation of Labor; Edward F. McGrady, Assistant Secretary of Labor; Harold Butler, director of the International Labor Office in Geneva; Norman Thomas, socialist leader; Matthew Woll, third vice president of the A. F. of L., and others.

Morris Feinstone, secretary of the organization, recalled that the United Hebrew Trades was now largely traditional, since half of the membership of its affiliated unions is non-Jewish.

At present, he said, the federation is using all its powers to help workers understand the National Recovery program in order that they may take the fullest advantage of it.

General Hugh Urges Prompt NRA Action To Kill Company Union Scheme

A. F. of L. Chief Declares Employer-Controlled Groups of Employes Are Outlawed by Section 7-A of Recovery Act, and Insists That the Law Be Enforced—Voluminous Evidence Filed to Support Charges That Corporations Openly Flout the Labor Section of the Law.

Washington.—General Hugh S. Johnson, Administrator of the National Industrial Recovery Act, and the National Labor Board, appointed by the President of the United States, should draw up forthwith a clear-cut statement outlawing company-sponsored unions and proceed against them in the courts on the ground that employer support for employe organizations is prohibited by the Recovery Act.

This pointed and significant statement was made by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, when it became known that officials of the Weirton Steel Company had flouted the authority of the National Labor Board in the election of workers' representatives for collective bargaining in the company's plants.

Evidence Filed

Mr. Green declared that as far back as September 20 he had filed with General Johnson voluminous affidavits alleging that corporations in all parts of the United States were forming company unions, writing constitutions for these organizations, paying the workers' representatives for their time on company union business and fathering such new organizations in every detail.

Expressing surprise that no action had been taken to make these corporations obey the Recovery Act, Mr. Green said he would renew his demand for action by General Johnson and also lay the matter before the National Labor Board for possible joint procedure.

"It is reported at the headquarters of the A. F. of L. that complaints pour in continually against company-promoted unions, the recommendation being that officials act promptly to end the practice.

Prosecution Urged

Declaring that under the Recovery Act employers are prohibited from spending money to forward organizations of employes, Mr. Green said he would ask General Johnson to advise those who control industry that if the tactics of subsidizing company unions is continued prosecution under the Recovery Act will be undertaken.

"That our complaints been acted upon promptly there would have been no Weirton case, and no Budd Manufacturing Company case," declared Mr. Green.

Eastman Bans Company Unions

"Last week Joseph B. Eastman, Federal Coordinator of Railroads, pointed out that railroads must keep their hands off so far as labor organizations are concerned. The railroads, like railroads, in some cases, had violated the law with respect to employes' organizations, and Mr. Eastman spoke out courageously. He said he would prosecute those roads which refused to desist from these practices.

"Mr. Eastman found that some of the roads were violating the section of which labor has been complaining for months. We have found that large corporations—some of the largest in the country—are taking part in the management of company union elections, in preparing these organizations, in writing their constitutions, in making contributions to company unions and in encouraging employes to join them and not to join the independent unions.

Company Unions Violate Law

"It is clearly in violation of the law for a company to formulate a company union constitution, yet they are being drawn up by legion. Under the Recovery Act the organization of employes is their business and should be left to them.

"Companies openly, without any effort at concealment whatever, specify that the meeting place for their company unions shall be in the plant. General Johnson said yesterday that anyone familiar with the experience knows that when an election is held under the company union auspices the men will vote with their eyes on the boss. Yet such elections are being held without any action being taken.

Warner Holds Company Unions Illegal

"I commend Senator Wagner's statement that the Budd case is a proof the employer has no right to sponsor a particular labor-organization, to prepare a plan of organization or to write a constitution whereunder freedom of choice is denied.

"Now that such company unions, in defiance of such a statement, are being formed all over the country, the proper authorities should step in at once and put a stop to them through legal action.

"In some companies, such as that of the Lamson & Sessions Company, we find the president writing to the employes that he does not consider that an employe representation plan is now desirable and will inaugurate such a plan as of August 1.

"No mention was made that the employes would be consulted. This case was one of the many brought to the attention of the Recovery Administration on September 20.

Scheme to Nullify Collective Bargaining

"A surplus form of 'employe representation' plan is also under way to nullify the collective bargaining provisions of the Recovery Act. Labor is extremely patient in view of this provocation.

"How long it will remain so, of course, no man will remain patient I do not know. Labor is not asking for undue advantages. It is asking that the law which clearly permits employes to form labor unions, if they wish to do so, be enforced.

"Labor is fully behind the NRA. It does not wish to see the law broken into another liquor prohibition law. Wholesale evasions of the labor section must be stopped promptly. Either labor is free to organize unions without coercion or intimidation by employers or it is not. If it is not, the sooner we know it the better."

ROOSEVELT EXTENDS BLANKET HOURS AND WAGES AGREEMENT TO MAY 1, 1934

Washington.—Breathing new life into the Blue Eagle campaign for industrial recovery, President Roosevelt extended to May 1, 1934, all provisions of the President's re-employment agreement, although the agreement itself expires at the end of 1933.

Thus he continued the blanket code as a contract beyond December 31, since as such it would also require the consent of employers, the President specified that further use of NRA insignia will be considered evidence of acceptance, which will carry out the same purpose. This was accomplished by an executive order which declared that the display of the Blue Eagle on or after December 31, 1934, "will be deemed an acceptance of this offer of extension." That means the life of the blanket code was extended four months, at the end of which the President hopes to have all industry under fair competition codes.

In the midst of winter and with many persons out of work," the President said, "it is obvious that no new year should not bring with it any letdown in the recovery program in the trades and industries which at that time have not become under approved codes and to which, therefore, only the President's re-employment agreement applies.

"I am, therefore, inviting every employer in those trades and industries to join with me in an extension of the President's re-employment agreement for four months. By that time it is expected the process of code making will have been virtually completed.

"I urge all employers in trades and industries not covered by codes to cooperate by continuing to maintain highest wages and shortest hours. The need for their help is still great.

"Employers joining with me in this extension of the President's re-employment agreement may continue to display the Blue Eagle as a symbol of their cooperation, and those few employers who have not heretofore signed the President's agreement may do so now and, upon delivering a signed certificate of agreement to the post office, may obtain a Blue Eagle."

AFL Council Considers Protecting Phrase "Organized Labor" from Perverted Usage

Washington.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has under consideration the question of protecting the words "organized labor" and similar terms of the labor movement from perverted usage.

The question came before the 1933 convention of the A. F. of L. in the form of a resolution, the purpose of which was to copyright the phrase "organized labor." The convention decided that the words are too general in their meaning to come within the scope of the copyright law, but ruled that it is entirely feasible through channels of publicity and education, to challenge and expose those who falsely claim to represent organized labor or who claim to be representing organized labor while engaged in activities calculated to cast discredit on the good name of the labor movement.

The convention recommended that the proposal be referred to the Executive Council, "with instructions to take such steps as may be possible and effective against the unlawful use of the channels of publicity and other available means to protect the reputation and standing of the trade union movement against any who may use, or attempt to use, the terms 'organized labor' or 'trade unions,' or the name of the American Federation of Labor, or any of its divisions, on false representations or for improper purposes."

Court Decrees Morgan Must Pay $37,647 To Salesman Injured by Banker's Auto

New York.—J. P. Morgan, America's richest banker, must pay a judgment of $37,647 for injuries suffered by Baugh, a salesman, for injuries when he was struck by Mr. Morgan's automobile in the theatrical district, the Appellate Division ruled. The court upheld a decision of Supreme Court Justice William Harman Black in refusing to set aside a verdict for $37,500 in suit for $75,000.

Baugh, who was a salesman for a directory company, was struck by Mr. Morgan's automobile, in which his footman was driving, on the rainy night, on January 27, 1932, when he was crossing William Street near Pearl Street. He sustained injuries which included a fractured left knee, which has made him lame since and kept him out of employment most of the time.

Paying even $37,647 to a worker made unemployed by misfortune because of the carelessness of Morgan's chauffeur shocked the banker's conservative associates, when it was appealed the decision of Justice Black in the case the defendant was excessive and that Baugh simply refused to "come out of the rain" of the automobile. But for once Morgan found himself up against justice untainted with the pomp and show of legal justice, and the Appellate Division told him to come across with a check for the entire $37,647.

120,000 Hosiery Workers Put On 3-Day Week, With Huge Slash in Earnings

Washington.—A three-day week for hosiery knitting mills all over the United States was decreed by the Hosiery Code Authority with the approval of General Hugh S. Johnson, NRA Administrator.

The curtailed operation began on December 18 and will continue for five weeks, at the end of which it may be extended for three weeks more.

The 120,000 hosiery workers in the country will have their hours reduced from 40 to 24 per week, with proportionate reduction on weekly earnings.